

Department of Defense Task Force on Mental Health

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Executive Secretary

Purpose

- Update the Defense Health Board on the status of DoD Mental Health Task Force efforts during the period December 2006 to April 2007.
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Membership

- VADM Donald Arthur, Surgeon General of the Navy, appointed Department of Defense Co-chair March 27, 2007
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Activities of the Task Force

- Information gathering
 - Deliberation of findings and recommendations
 - Administrative, writing and report editing
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Information Gathering

- Full Task Force Meetings
 - The Task Force has held eight meetings of the full Task Force membership
 - Informational briefings in open sessions from subject matter experts
 - Open “town hall” format sessions at which the public was provided an opportunity to address the Task Force
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Information Gathering

□ Site visits

- The Task Force has sent delegations of 2-5 members on site visits to 38 military installations from all four Services in the continental United States, Europe, and the Far East.
 - Completed final site visit in February 2007
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Information Gathering

- Site visits
 - Installation commander
 - Post “town hall” meeting
 - Resident military units
 - Medical Treatment Facilities
 - Non-medical behavioral health support
 - Local community medical support
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Information Gathering

- Site visits
 - Standard list of questions
 - Problem areas and model programs
 - Exact agenda negotiated with each installation
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Information Gathering

- Data Call
 - Extensive list of questions
 - Tasked to responding organizations by Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs)
 - Responding organizations
 - DUSD(Military Community and Family Policy)
 - ASD(HA)
 - TRICARE Management Activity
 - Military Departments
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Information Gathering

- Web page for submission of written statements
 - <http://www.ha.osd.mil/DHB/mhtf/testimony.cfm>
 - Web page closed for testimony March 9, 2007
 - Web site remains open for public information
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Information Gathering

- Literature review
- Information posted for Task Force use on AKO website (password protected)

Deliberation of Findings and Recommendations

- Full Task Force meetings
 - Washington, DC February 2007
 - San Antonio, TX April 2007

 - Defense Health Board
 - Fort Detrick, MD May 3, 2007
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Remaining Activities

- April 10-11: Defense Health Board (DHB) meeting.
 - April 16-18: Full TF meeting to deliberate draft report.
 - May 3: DHB meeting. DHB deliberates edited draft report (in soft copy only).
 - May 15: MHTF delivers report to Secretary of Defense
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Questions?

